

REMARKS

Claims 33-54 are pending. Claim 33 has been allowed. Claims 34-38, 41, 43, 45-49, 52, and 54 stand rejected. The Examiner objected to Claims 39, 40, 44, 50, 51, and 53 as being depended upon a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 34, 39, 40, 41, 45, 50, 51, 52, and 53 have been amended.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 102: The Examiner rejected Claims 34-37, 41, 43, 45-48, 52, and 54 as being anticipated by USPN 4,616,291 issued to Samezki. Samezki discloses a light source (26) contained within an enclosure (6). Light from light source (26) is reflected by a light conductor (28) onto a display (23). Samezki, col. 6, lines 5-18 and Fig. 1.

Claim 34 is directed to a method of utilizing light emitted from a user non-perceivable light source in a machine having a user perceivable component positioned at a first location. As amended, Claim 1 includes the following limitations:

1. directing energy from the user non-perceivable light source to a second location;
2. conveying light from the user non-perceivable light source to the first location; and
3. illuminating the user perceivable component with said conveyed light.

Samezki does not teach utilizing a user non-perceivable light source to convey light to a first location and to radiate energy to a second location in the manner required by the first and second limitations above. For at least this reason, Claim 34 is felt to distinguish over Samezki.

Claims 35-37, 41, and 43 each depend from Claim 34 and include all the limitations of that base claim. For the same reasons Claim 34 distinguished over Samezki so do Claims 35-37, 41, and 43.

Claim 45 is directed to a system for utilizing light emitted from a user non-perceivable light source in a machine having a user perceivable component positioned at a first location. As amended, Claim 45 includes the following limitations:

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1. means for directing energy from the user non-perceivable light source to a second location;
2. means for conveying light from the user non-perceivable light source to the first location; and
3. means for illuminating the user perceivable component with said conveyed light.

Samezki does not teach means for utilizing a user non-perceivable light source to convey light to a first location and to radiate energy to a second location in the manner required by the first and second limitations above. For at least this reason, Claim 45 is felt to distinguish over Samezki.

Claims 46-48, 52, and 54 each depend from Claim 45 and include all the limitations of that base claim. For the same reasons Claim 45 distinguished over Samezki so do Claims 46-48, 52, and 54.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 103: The Examiner rejected Claim 38 and 49 as being obvious over Samezki in view of Japanese Publication 11-84921 to Fukao. Claim 38 depends from Claim 34, and Claim 49 depends from Claim 45. For the same reasons Claim 34 and 45 are patentable, so are Claims 38 and 49.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER: The Examiner has allowed Claim 33. The Examiner objected to Claims 39, 40, 44, 50, 51, and 53 as being depended upon a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 39, 40, 50, 51, and 53 have each been rewritten in independent form in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Claim 44, however, was presented in and remains in independent form.

CLAIM NOT ADDRESSED: The Examiner has neglected to address Claim 42 in both the Office Action Summary and the Detailed Action. If further action is necessary, The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner address this claim.

CONCLUSION: The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action. Claims 33-54 are felt to be in condition for allowance. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing the application to issue is earnestly solicited. The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

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